



NEWS RELEASE

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO
THOMAS QUINLAN • CHIEF OF POLICE

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Public Information Office

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ShotSpotter Alerts Help Lead to Weapons / Felonious Assault Charges

Members of the ATF Task Force, CPD Assault Squad and CPD CRT Zone 2 initiated an investigation into the listed incidents that were all detected by ShotSpotter Alerts:

- *On 5/30/19, CPD officers responded to a firearms discharge at 1065 S. Ohio Avenue.
- *On 6/21/19, CPD officers responded to a felonious assault at 755 E. Whittier Street.
- *On 7/27/19, CPD officers responded to a firearms discharge at 471 Southwood Avenue.
- *On 8/6/19, CPD officers responded to a felonious assault at S. Ashburton Road and Elbern Avenue.

During the course of the investigation, convicted felon/ ODRC parolee/ gang member 21-year-old Deion Smith was identified as a suspect in the incidents and the firearm used in the incidents was described as a peanut butter colored firearm. Additionally, felonious assault charges were filed on Smith.

On 8/15/19, CPD SWAT, CPD CRT Zone 2 and ATF Task Force members recovered a tan pistol from the vehicle Smith's vehicle.

The arrest and recovery of firearm were reported to the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) and a parole violation was placed on Smith. He has remained in custody since the date of his arrest pending a parole violation, Improper Handling of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle and having Weapons While Under Disability.

On 11/21/19, it was determined that the gun recovered from Smith on 8/15/19 was the same gun used in the previously mentioned crimes.

The following units were instrumental in keeping this serial shooter off the streets of Columbus, Ohio; CPD SWAT, CPD Assault Squad, CPD CRT Zone 2, CPD/ ATF Task Force, CPD Lab and ODRC.

